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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventors: Bahram Khoobehi *et al.*  
Serial No. 11/\_\_\_\_\_  
International Application No. PCT/US2005/009185  
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Title: A Method for Evaluating Relative Oxygen Saturation in Body Tissues  
  
Atty File No. Khoobehi 03M25-US

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir or Madam:

**In the Specification:**

Please amend paragraph [0001] appearing on page 1 as follows. (A "clean" version of this amended paragraph is given in the Appendix.)

This is the United States national stage of international application PCT/US2005/009185, filed 18 March 2005, which claims the benefit of the 19 March 2004 filing date of United States provisional application serial number 60/554,456 under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e). [The benefit of the 19 March 2004 filing date of United States provisional patent application serial number 60/554,456 is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) in the United States, and is claimed under applicable treaties and conventions in all countries.]